

VZCZCXYZ0013
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHLP #0604 0641746
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 051746Z MAR 07
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2715
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 6606
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 3927
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 7815
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 5061
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 2296
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 2394
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 3359
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 4462
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 4937
RUEHSJ/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE 1613
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 9525
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0080
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RHMFIUU/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA 0195
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS LA PAZ 000604

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STATE FOR WHA/AND LPETRONI
SAN JOSE FOR USAID/OFDA TIMOTHY CALLAGHAN
STATE PASS TO AID FOR DCHA/OFDA MILENA POPP, LAC/SA JEFF
BAKKEN, DCHA/FFP BARRY BURNETT
LIMA FOR DHS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAID](#) [AMED](#) [ASUP](#) [CASC](#) [EAGR](#) [ECON](#) [PREL](#) [BL](#)
SUBJECT: BOLIVIA FLOODING SITREP 6: MARCH 5, 2007

REF: A. LA PAZ 593
[1](#)B. 2006 LA PAZ 3244

[1](#)1. (U) Large parts of the departments of the Beni and Santa Cruz remain affected by massive floods (ref A). Although flood waters in Trinidad, capital of the Beni, have begun to recede, rivers are rising in other areas of the department and threaten to expand the flooding to those new areas.

- GOB authorities raised total estimates of affected families from 73,482 to 75,897 in eight out of nine departments.

- Health reports indicate increasing cases of dengue fever and tetanus, among other illnesses. The health minister announced on March 5 that vaccination campaigns against tetanus would begin this week and fumigation against mosquitoes would continue.

- The Beni regional government estimates that the flood waters will not recede for two months and that the regional government will have to attend to 80,000 flood victims during that time with 1,000 tons of food per month.

[1](#)2. (U) The GOB promulgated a law on March 2 to allow prefectures and municipal governments declared disaster zones to spend their budgetary resources, including their shares of the direct hydrocarbons tax, without restriction. 108 of Bolivia's 329 municipalities have been declared disaster zones. The vice minister of lands announced that the verification of whether land is fulfilling an economic or social function, as required by the land law passed in November 2006 (ref B), would be put on hold during the emergency.

[1](#)3. (U) Ambassador Goldberg and USAID Director Mike Yates

traveled to Trinidad, Beni on March 5 to visit flood victims and donate two additional plane loads of emergency supplies, including hygiene kits and tents. U.S. assistance to date totals approximately USD 1.5 million. The Office of Personnel Management has authorized fundraising within the mission, which will continue through March 16, with proceeds going to the International Federation of Red Cross.

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